



Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
7201 Hamilton Boulevard
Allentown, PA 18195-1501
Tel 610 481-4911

August 14, 2006

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Max Baucus
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Duty Suspension Bill (S. 2991) - Technical Changes

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Baucus:

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. of Allentown, Pennsylvania, strongly supports legislation introduced by Senator Rick Santorum to suspend temporarily the duty on certain chemical products.

S. 2991 would reduce the cost of three epoxy curing agents: Epilink® 701, Ancamide® 2733, and Ancamine® 2432. Epilink® 701 (also known as Anquamine® 701) is used as a curing agent for the manufacture of coatings, flooring, and grouts. Ancamide® 2733 is used to make coatings. Ancamine® 2432 is used to make chemically-resistant coatings, mortar, floor coatings, and anchor bolt adhesive for building bridges. Air Products manufactures these trademarked products at subsidiaries in the United Kingdom, and (in the case of Ancamide® 2733) in Singapore. Once imported, these products are sold to epoxy resin formulators, who in turn supply the construction industry. A temporary duty suspension would benefit U.S. chemical formulators and the U.S. construction industry.

A technical change to S. 2991, as written, is needed to ensure that the provisions are properly enacted. The article descriptions should read:

For Epilink® 701:

Aqueous emulsion of a modified aliphatic amine mixture of Decanedioic acid, compounds with 1,3-benzenedimethanamine-bisphenol A-bisphenol A diglycidyl ether-diethylenetriamine glycidyl phenyl ether reaction product-epichlorohydrin-formaldehyde-propylene oxide-triethylenetetramine polymer (CAS No. 260549-92-6) and Water (CAS No. 7732-18-5) (provided for in subheading 3909.30.00).

For Ancamide® 2733:

Polyamide Mixture of C18-unsaturated fatty acid dimers, polymer with tall-oil fatty acid, Bisphenol a diglycidyl ether, diethylenetetramine, formaldehyde, phenyl glycidyl ether and polyethylenepolyamines (CAS No. 128824-26-0), Tall-oil fatty acid, reaction products with Tetraethylenepentamine (CAS No. 68953-36-6), Benzyl alcohol (CAS No. 100-51-6), Aminopropylmorpholine, 4- (CAS No. 123-00-2), Poly (oxy (methyl-1,2-ethanediyl), alpha-(2-aminomethylethyl)-omega-(2-aminomethylethoxy) (CAS No. 9046-10-0), Xylene (CAS No. 1330-20-7), Tetraethylenepentamine (CAS No. 112-57-2), Triethylenetetramine (CAS No. 112-24-3) and Diethylenetriamine (DETA) (CAS No. 111-40-0) (provided for in subheading 3909.30.00).

For Ancamine® 2432:

Modified aliphatic amine mixture of Benzyl alcohol (CAS No. 100-51-6), Reaction product of tris-(2,4,6-dimethylaminomethyl)phenol and meta-xylenediamine (CAS No. 57214-10-5), Benzene-1,3-dimethanamine (MXDA) (CAS No. 1477-55-0), Phenol 4,4'-(methyl 1-ethylidene)bis-

,polymer with (chloromethyl)oxirane, reaction products with ethylenediamine (CAS No. 72480-18-3), and Ethylenediamine (CAS No. 107-15-3) (provided for in subheading 3911.90.45).

These three products are unique from any other epoxy curing agents produced in the United States. The proposed tariff headings are narrowly drawn to avoid importation of formulations of curing agents that may be produced domestically. The above-listed formulations are trademarked and proprietary to Air Products. For example, Epilink® 701 is unlike any epoxy curing agent found in the U.S. market and is patented by US Patent Number US 5,854,312.

Likewise, Ancamine® 2733 is unlike any epoxy curing agent as defined by US Patent Number US 5,688,905. These duty suspensions will increase the competitiveness of U.S. industrial users of epoxy curing agents that cannot otherwise be sourced in the United States.

We have notified the U.S. International Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Commerce of the need for the technical changes. Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your dedication to gaining the swift enactment of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2006.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ZKR', followed by a horizontal line.

Zay K. Risinger, Jr.
Global Business Manager - Epoxies

cc: G. Acker – Distribution & Logistics
R. Goodstein – DC
T. Holt – Law
M. Troutman – Imports
S. Ziehm – IBGC

August 9, 2006

Committee on Finance
U. S. Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Re: S.2991, Bill to Temporarily Suspend the Duty on Epoxy Curing Agents

Dear Sirs:

If I could take few minutes of your day, I would like to present a current issue that is vital to our business. As a member of the management team of Gabriel Performance Products, LLC (formerly Occidental Chemical) we are faced with fierce global competition in the markets for specialty chemicals. With the adverse news coming out of Ford, GM, IBM and other large multi-national corporations it is not surprising that the livelihood of our business and the jobs of our 65 employees are at risk as a result of this intense competition. Certainly global competition has benefits, but reasonable restraints are important to the continued success of manufacturing in the USA.

A major business for Gabriel Performance Products (GabePro®) is the manufacture and marketing of epoxy curing agents. Epoxy curing agents represent a considerable portion of our sales and profitability, and are *vital* to the continued viability of our business, as well as the aforementioned jobs. Recently we learned that Sen. Santorum introduced S.2991 into the U. S. Senate, which proposes to suspend temporarily the duty on epoxy curing agents. This bill currently resides in the Finance Committee. We ask that you employ reasonable efforts to defeat this bill for the reasons previously noted.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to have one of you staffers call me at (440) 992-3254 or (513) 708-7613, or e-mail me at len_boehm@gabepro.com.

Thank you in advance to your attention to my request.

Sincerely,



Leonard J. Boehm
V.P. Sales & Marketing